

## **FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** October 13, 2016

**Agenda Item:** Round Up and Three Stall Fishing Access Site Lease Agreements (R2)

**Division:** Fisheries

**Action Needed:** Final

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 5 Min

◆-----◆  
**Background:** The Blackfoot Corridor Agreement was renewed in 2015. In doing this, we discovered that two of the main fishing access sites in the Blackfoot Corridor (Round Up and Three Stall) were being managed on private land by FWP without a formal management agreement in place. In 2015, FWP asked for and received Commission endorsement to negotiate lease agreements with the landowner at these FASs at the November (Roundup FAS) and the December (Three Stall FAS) meetings. Those negotiations are completed. The landowner and FWP now ask to finalize these agreements. Because Region 2 has been and continues to manage these sites as part of the Regional FAS program already, approving the agreements would not require additional allocation of resources.

**Public Involvement Process & Results:** An EA concerning the lease agreements was published soliciting public comment from July 18 through August 15, 2016. FWP received 2 comments electronically during the 18-day comment period, both from individuals, both supported the proposal. Each comment is repeated verbatim below:

- Glad that these leases are finally getting done! I don't see anything about weed spraying will FWP be responsible for weed spraying?
- I support the lease of these two Fishing Access Sites. I would also like to thank the Monroe Property Company, for being so generous and sharing their land with the public!!!! Please pass my "Thanks" along to them.

### **Alternatives and Analysis:**

Formalize the management of Round up and Three Stall FASs in a Lease Agreement. This outcome would explicitly establish roles and responsibilities of FWP and the landowner and secure long-term public access to these sites.

Forgo the lease and continue with the informal management of the site. This arrangement exposes FWP and the landowner to several uncertainties including ambiguities concerning legal obligations and liabilities. This arrangement lacks assurances about long-term public access to these sites.

### **Agency Recommendation & Rationale:**

FWP recommends that we enter into this Lease Agreement with the landowner to manage these important access points. The agreement formalizes the management arrangement and defines roles and responsibilities.

**Proposed Motion:** I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission approve authority for the lease to be signed by FWP.